

STATE OF MAINE PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION 242 STATE STREET 18 STATE HOUSE STATION AUGUSTA, MAINE 04333-0018

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CAD Bulletin No. 2006-02

To: Local Exchange Carriers

From: Derek D. Davidson, Director, Consumer Assistance Division

Subject: Unregistered Service Provider Operating in Maine

Date: April 12, 2006

The purpose of this bulletin is to make you aware that an unregistered service provider is soliciting customers for its service in Maine and will bill for that service on the customer's local telephone bill. Directory Billing, Inc. based in Boca Raton, Florida, has mailed checks for \$3.25 to some Maine businesses as an incentive to sign-up for its Internet yellow page listing service, Preferred Business Link. By signing the check, the customer agrees to pay \$34.95 per month for the Internet yellow page service, which will be billed through OAN on the customer's local telephone bill. While OAN is registered with the Commission as a billing aggregator, Directory Billing is <u>not</u> registered and has not indicated it will be submitting a request to the Commission to become registered.

Chapter 297 of the Commission's rules requires that service providers be registered with the Commission before offering a product or service when the charge for such good or service will appear on a customer's local telephone bill. Chapter 297 also prohibits a billing agent, such as a LEC or CLEC, from including charges on its bill from a service provider that is not registered with the Commission. As of the date of this bulletin, Directory Billing has not submitted an application for registration as a service provider in Maine. Therefore, billing agents should not include any charges from Directory Billing, Inc. on their bills to Maine customers.

If you have any questions, please contact Julie Haefele at (207) 287-4974 ext. 2005 or at Julie.F.Haefele@maine.gov.